

Amount paid to C.P.C. out of Pool Fund for Import of L-Base

10732. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8392 on 24th April, 1979 and state:

(a) the estimated detailed break-up of the amount which is likely to be paid to C.P.C. out of pool fund for import of L-Base under the arrangement made by the Ministry;

(b) whether the amount paid under various service heads could be saved if the subsidy could have been given to individual units on Chloramphenicon instead of L-Base; and

(c) if so, what is the total amount which could alone have been saved on the purchase of 15 tons L-Base recently and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) The extent of under-recovery for which CPC would have to be compensated from the Drugs Prices Equalisation Account would depend upon the quantity of L-Base that may be imported by CPC on behalf of actual users under the arrangements announced by the Ministry.

(b) Since the import price of L-Base varies from time to time and from source to source it would have been difficult to fix retention price of Chloramphenicol for individual manufacturers each time there is an increase in the price of L-Base. In so far as the producers of Chloramphenicol ex-L-Base are concerned, so long as they are getting L-Base at a price of Rs. 475/- per kg. ex-godown, there would be no difficulty in supplying chloramphenicol Powder at a price of Rs. 480/- per kg.

(c) CPC have reported that they have placed order for import of 15

tonnes of L-Base on behalf of Dey-Se-Chem, Calcutta, under the arrangements approved by the Government w.e.f. 6th of March, 1979. The landed cost per kg. of this import would work out to Rs. 574.59 per kg. as against which CPC would be charging only Rs. 475/- per kg. ex-godown. Compensating CPC for the under-recovery on the above account would ensure that Chloramphenicol Powder becomes available at a uniform price of Rs. 480/- per kg. and also that the prices of formulations based on this essential drug could be maintained

Non-payment of subsidy to Firms Importing L-Base otherwise than through C.P.C.

10733. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8392 on 24th April, 1979 and state:

(a) whether units who have already procured L-Base themselves have been put to a disadvantage due to the arrangement for subsidy on L-Base, if imported through C.P.C. only;

(b) what steps have Government taken to assure a reasonable margin to such units in view of the increased price paid by them on import of L-Base after 1978;

(c) whether in view of the genuine difficulties of the units, Government propose to review the retention price announced for Chloramphenicol under DPCO-1979; and

(d) if so, by when; if not, the detailed reasons for not doing so?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Government had notified price of Chloramphenicol Powder produced ex-L-Base at Rs. 480/- per kg. (based on L-Base price of Rs. 475/- per kg.) on the recommendations of the BICP and